OIP	E JOIS
MAR 0	8 5005 R

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PRADE

Office on:

Signature

Name (Print/Type)

JoEllen Hogan

REQUEST

CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/009,248
Filing Date	January 20, 1998
First Named Inventor	Kenji Ohsawa
Group Art Unit	2814
Examiner Name	D. Graybill
Attorney Docket Number	9792909-3755

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.	
1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 a. Previously submitted i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on iii. Other b. Enclosed i. Mamendment/Reply ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. Other 2. Miscellaneous a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. a. X The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-3150 i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) iii. Cother any additional fees required b. X Other any additional fees required b. X Check in the amount of \$740.00 enclosed c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)	
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED	
Name (Print /Type) Brian J. Gill Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 46,727 Signature Date 2/22/02	
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 6.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time—you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

Date

envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark